

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCA-01 L-03 SS-20 SSO-00 NSCE-00 CCO-00

CPR-02 INR-10 NSC-10 INRE-00 RSC-01 /062 R

DRAFTED BY EA/PRCM:ADROMBERG:MFR

APPROVED BY EA/PRCM: TSBROOKS

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S/S-O: G. TWOHIE

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O R 100455Z NOV 73 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USLO PEKING IMMEDIATE

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

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FOR USLO AND S/S TOSEC 357

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CGEN, PFOR, CH

SUBJECT: US-PRC CONSULAR AFFAIRS

REF: STATE 218363

1. ON NOVEMBER 9, CHI CH'AO-CHU AND CHI LI-TE OF THE
PRCLO CALLED AT THEIR REQUEST ON THE ACTING DIRECTOR
OF EA/PRCM. MOST IMPORTANT ITEM OF BUSINESS WAS
PRESENTATION OF NOTE DESIGNATING CHI LI-TE AS OFFICIAL OF
PRCLO WHO "HAS BEEN APPOINTED TO PERFORM CONSULAR FUNCTIONS
FOR THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA IN THE UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA IN ADDITION TO HIS OTHER DUTIES." PRCLO NOTE HAS
BEEN PASSED TO PROTOCOL TO ACKNOWLEDGE
IN WRITING NEXT WEEK.

2. CHI CH'AO-CHU THEN READ FROM PENCILLED NOTES THAT IT
WAS HIS GOVERNMENT'S UNDERSTANDING THAT THE PRCLO, IN
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ADDITION TO ISSUING VISAS, WOULD NOW ISSUE PASSPORTS,

PERFORM NOTARY AND AUTHENTICATION SERVICES, AND WOULD HANDLE MATTERS ON BEHALF OF ITS NATIONALS IN THE UNITED STATES. AS OUR RELATIONS DEVELOPED, SHIPPING, COMMERCIAL MATTERS AND OTHER NORMAL CONSULAR FUNCTIONS WOULD ALSO BE INCLUDED. CHI SAID HE BELIEVED THIS WAS ESSENTIALLY IN LINE WITH OUR NOTE ON SUCH SERVICES PRESENTED IN PEKING. WE AGREED.

3. WE ASKED IF THERE WERE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THE ARRANGEMENT, INCLUDING ANY QUESTIONS THEY MIGHT HAVE ABOUT OUR CONCERNS REGARDING THE TERM "CONSULAR RELATIONS." CHI SAID THAT, IN LIGHT OF THE STATE OF RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES, HIS GOVERNMENT PREFERRED THAT THE TERM ITSELF BE AVOIDED AND THAT ANY DIRECT AFFIRMATION OF THE EXISTENCE OF SUCH RELATIONS ALSO BE AVOIDED. WE EXPLAINED THAT WE THOUGHT WE COULD PROBABLY AVOID USING THE TERM DIRECTLY, WENT THROUGH THE LEGAL CONCERNS, AND SAID THAT OUR PRIMARY CONCERN WAS THAT THE PRC NOT/NOT DIRECTLY DENY THE EXISTENCE OF SUCH RELATIONS. CHI STATED EXPLICITLY (AND CHECKED WITH CHI LI-TE WHO AGREED) THAT THE PRC NEED NOT DIRECTLY DENY THE EXISTENCE OF "CONSULAR RELATIONS." IT WAS OBVIOUS THAT THIS POINT HAD BEEN SPECIFICALLY ADDRESSED IN PRCLO'S INSTRUCTIONS FROM PEKING. THE CONVERSATION ENDED WITH BOTH SIDES AGREEING THAT IT WAS IN OUR MUTUAL INTEREST TO DO OUR BEST TO AVOID THE TERM "CONSULAR RELATIONS." RUSH

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